



Artist wins Best  
in Show, p.12



Festival updates,  
pp. 3 and 12

## State Board Announces New November Election Procedures

by Edith J. Beauchamp

*Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com).*

Dramatic changes in how Maryland will vote in the November general election for President and Congress were made official just last week. The Maryland State Board of Elections met Wednesday, August 12 in an emergency session and ratified new dates for the general election and a new strategy for voting, using the emergency powers

Governor Larry Hogan gave them to conduct the election.

Hogan wrote: "I have issued a proclamation granting the State Board of Elections the authority it is seeking to create voting centers for use during early voting and on Election Day, at the sole discretion of the Board. My only direction to you, under existing law, was to expand and encourage voting by mail by immediately mailing absentee ballot requests to every voter."

The significant change from

the June primary, when all registered voters were mailed ballots, is that now, for the general election, all Marylanders must specifically make a formal request on a signed application form to receive a mail-in ballot.

Because the State Board anticipates that most people will still opt for mail-in voting, the Board will mail ballot request forms to all registered voters with a postage pre-paid return

See **ELECTION**, page 9

## Arts, Crafts, Exercise, Science: 2020 Kinder Camp Offers it All

by Taylor Hardy



PHOTO BY CARLY FRIEND-GOMEZ

Emma and Stella Friend-Gomez make crab-themed headbands for "Under the Sea" week.

This summer the Greenbelt Recreation Kinder Camp Connect program has looked drastically different from the Kinder Camp programs of the past. For instance, this summer the preschool aged campers have worked entirely from the safety of their own homes. With COVID-19

closing down the Community Center, staff quickly shifted their focus from in-person camps to virtual camps. Kinder Camp staff members Taylor Hardy, Teresa Trozzo, Nadia Constanza and Shantel Morton immediately

See **CAMP**, page 11

## Greenbelt Station and Council Work to Resolve Trail, Issues

by Matthew Arbach

Residents of Greenbelt Station (GS) were welcomed to a Greenbelt City Council worksession on August 12 to share their recent concerns and challenges. GS representatives included Community Manager Leslie Perez of Community Association Management Professionals (CAMP) and GS Master Association Vice President Rachel Roberts-Jones, along with residents Ting Ma and Brian Drewry.

City Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby began with a rundown of the latest developments on the trail that will connect GS and the Greenbelt Metro station, a key element of the community when it was conceived. This trail, active in its planning and permitting phase, will be constructed by Woodlawn, the developer of

See **COUNCIL**, page 8

## Council Briefed on Beltway Widening Options, Impacts

by Diane Oberg

Additional details are now available about the impact of the proposed widening of the Capital Beltway (I-495) and I-270. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (SHA) have released their Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) and the Joint Federal/State Application (JPA) for the alteration of any floodplains or wetlands, and have begun virtual and in-person public hearings on the documents (details at the end of this article).

Comments may be submitted through Thursday, October 8 but those wishing to comment should not wait until the last minute. The executive summary of these reports is 21 pages. The DEIS is 353 pages and the JPA is even longer.

At its August 10 regular meeting the Greenbelt City Council was briefed on the DEIS by Molly Porter of the city's Department of Planning and Community Development, who recently achieved Certified City Planner status. Staff will continue to review the document and will prepare comments to council for approval.

ment of Planning and Community Development, who recently achieved Certified City Planner status. Staff will continue to review the document and will prepare comments to council for approval.

### DEIS

The DEIS identifies seven alternatives including no build. The six build alternatives include various mixtures of express toll lanes, managed lanes and high-occupancy vehicle lanes.

Porter noted that the earlier transit alternatives are off the table. Instead, the plan now is to allow buses free use of the managed lanes and accommodation of direct and indirect connections to transit stations.

Porter noted that the city has consistently advocated against widening the Capital Beltway due to the significant impact the project would have on "natural, socioeconomic, cultural and built environments." Instead, the city

has urged the state to study alternative congestion relief packages including increased funding for transit and other alternative

See **BELTWAY**, page 8

### What Goes On

**Monday, August 24 8 p.m.** City Council Worksession: Dog Park Reopening Rules and Regulations  
**Wednesday, August 26 8 p.m.** Council Worksession: County Council Chair Todd Turner & At-Large Councilmembers Mel Franklin and Calvin Hawkins. All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at [greenbeltmd.gov](http://greenbeltmd.gov) for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



PHOTO BY MELISSA SITES

The Rude Mechanicals, in residence at Greenbelt Arts Center, present Romeo and Juliet on Zoom. See story, page 7.



PHOTO BY LOIS GORMAN

Zachary Hoard of the Co-op sanitizes carts for patrons.



# Letters to the Editor

## City Needs Better Maglev Strategy

The article by Donna Hoffmeister in the Thursday August 13 issue of the News Review described a half-hour City Council discussion of maglev as “Paralysis by Analysis.” The discussion focused on possible lawsuits, an understandable reflection of anger over revised Baltimore-Washington Rapid Rail (BWRR) maglev routes that bullseye the Greenbelt Forest Preserve for destruction. (See maps in August 6 issue.)

As the article explained, BWRR also quietly excluded the Greenbelt city government from a meeting, in which the new route proposal was explained, along with plans for maglev to pop out of the ground in the middle of the Preserve and then run over some of the most ecologically sensitive portions of the Preserve’s North Woods section. The city found out about the secret BWRR meeting by sheer luck.\*

An unanswered question is: What will Greenbelt do next? Residents of the city still await an answer.

Ms. Hoffmeister, who chairs Greenbelt’s Forest Preserve Advisory Board, first reported on the July 20 meeting in the News Review a week earlier (August 6 issue) with an article saying that City Planner Terri Hruby will attempt to have BWRR repeat its presentation at a council worksession.

Has the city contacted BWRR? If so, what was BWRR’s response? The question should be asked not only of Hruby, but also the entire council, the city manager and the city attorney. At the very least, the city should demand a briefing by BWRR and keep the public informed.

Paralysis by Analysis depicts council arguing over how best to sue BWRR. Let’s file a lawsuit?

The city can’t afford a lawsuit? Let’s find an advocacy group to represent Greenbelt (for free). The circular discussion went nowhere.

The city would be better served with a chess-like approach that places a premium on strategy as opposed to emotion. The city needs a public relations strategy, not arguments over how to sue BWRR. It’s far too early to talk about lawsuits, even though court challenges to maglev are likely at some point.

I urge council and city employees to help the News Review, civic organizations, other affected cities and other news outlets expand the public record about maglev.

For example, it might be helpful to contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), to flesh out details of a study of the Forest Preserve several years ago. DNR scientists identified at least one endangered species in the Preserve. Exposing a threat to an endangered species is one way to checkmate BWRR. This is but one suggestion.

Could the city designate a member of staff to deal with maglev issues, if only to keep the project’s threat to our city in the public eye?

Given all the obstacles that BWRR faces, an effective PR approach would well provide enough ammunition to kill the project, possibly before anti-maglev lawsuits ever hit the courts.

Willis Witter

**\* (Editor's Note:** This letter was written prior to knowing that BWRR did not organize the meeting. See Clarifications, this page.)



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

Springhill Lake Recreation Coordinator Frank Jones hands out playground balls as part of Greenbelt Recreation's third Activity Kit Give Away of the summer. One hundred and fifty kits were distributed at Springhill Lake Elementary on August 5.



PHOTO BY BRIANNE BOYLAN

Dmitri Barnes (7) catches up on all the latest news.

## Clarifications

DeWayne Washington, news chief at Goddard Space Flight Center, referring to our article, Maglev Snubs Local Officials: Changes Threaten Forest, in the August 6 issue, wishes to clarify that “Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) has not offered a position on the maglev project. GSFC is concerned about impacts to operations at the Goddard Geophysical and Astronomical Observatory (GGAO) from the potential location of a Train-set Maintenance Facility near GGAO, particularly the one on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center property at the old airstrip off Springfield Road. These concerns have been expressed as part of the on-going Environmental Impact Statement process.”

### Editor’s Note

With respect to the same story, we wrote that Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail (BWRR) hosted the meetings on June 23 and July 20. The lead agencies for the June 23 meeting with a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) update were the Federal Railroad Administration, Maryland Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transit Administration. The lead agencies for the July 20 meeting updating the historic preservation materials were the Federal Railroad Administration and the Maryland Department of Transportation.

Also, according to BWRR, funding for the project will come from a mix of sources, including Japan, U.S. government loan and grant programs, and the private sector.

## New Submission Deadlines

The Greenbelt News Review has revised its deadlines in view of the impact of COVID-19 on our operations. The new deadlines are:

**Display ads:** Copy that is not camera-ready – 2 p.m. Monday

**Display ads:** Camera-ready copy – 6 p.m. Tuesday

**Classified ads:** 6 p.m. Tuesday

**Letters to the editor** (which should be fewer than 300 words): 2 p.m. Tuesday

**Stories under 700 words:** 2 p.m. Tuesday

**Stories over 700 words:** 2 p.m. Monday

**Photos:** 2 p.m. Tuesday

**Community events:** 2 p.m. Tuesday

## Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web [greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com) para ver artículos en español.



See our website, [greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com), for articles in Spanish.



## Letters Policy

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

All letters must include the letter writer’s name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Community Calendar: [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/calendar](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/calendar)

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Circulation and Distribution information also available at:  
[www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution/](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution/)

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc

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**DEADLINES:** Letters, Photos and Articles under 700 words - 2 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads and stories over 700 words - 2 p.m. Monday, Classified Ads and camera-ready Display Ads - 6 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be emailed, or mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 2 p.m. Tuesday) or dropped through the mail slot for our office on the east side of the Community Center, (side closest to the Municipal Building) 15 Crescent Road. Mail subscriptions—\$50/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 -10 p.m.



# Community Events

## Improv by Zoom

On Friday August 28 from 7:30 to 9 p.m., Greenbelt Unplugged in collaboration with College Park Arts Exchange will bring improv games to the tiny screen (yours). And you can be a star in this production – in your very own tiny box. Ian Blackwell Rogers will host a series of fun and participatory games designed to get participants to think creatively, make stuff up and most of all have fun. See [greenbeltunplugged.org](https://greenbeltunplugged.org) to read more about it, or watch a video from the last Zoom improv session. To get the Zoom link send an email to [events@greenbeltunplugged.org](mailto:events@greenbeltunplugged.org). The event is free (though donations are allowed). In order to maximize participation and fun, this event is limited to 12 people.

## Greenbelt Recreation Registration Opens

Greenbelt Recreation fall class registration, which opened for Greenbelt residents on August 17, will open for non-residents on Monday, August 24. Fall hybrid courses include archery, Mom's Morning Out pre-school, children's dance classes, circus juggling and adult ceramics classes and open studio. There are also a variety of online-only programs which include yoga, ukelele and a large range of art classes. Many of the art classes include supplies which can be picked up before the class starts. For more information go to [greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation](https://greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation) and click on Fall Classes.

## Outdoor Pool Open

The outdoor pool at the Aquatic & Fitness Center is now open for both lap lane and recreational swimming by reservation only. Lap lanes are available for 45 minute slots between 7 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. on weekdays. Recreational swimming is available from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Monday - Friday and 4:45 -to5:45 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information or to sign up for a session see Greenbelt RecLink: [https://recreation.greenbeltnmd.gov/bwsc/webtrac.wsc/splash.html?InterfaceParameter=WebTrac\\_1](https://recreation.greenbeltnmd.gov/bwsc/webtrac.wsc/splash.html?InterfaceParameter=WebTrac_1).

## Dem Club to Zoom Sunday

by Konrad Herling

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club will meet this Sunday, August 23 at 3 p.m. via Zoom. RSVP at [rooseveltclub.com/calendar](https://rooseveltclub.com/calendar) to receive the meeting instructions and dial-in number. Guest speakers are Martin Mitchell, president of the Prince George's County Young Democrats and a key member of County Council Chair Todd Turner's constituent relations team; and Daneen Banks, member of the Prince George's County Board of Elections. Banks will provide the latest voting information. The club will also be discussing the just-concluded Democratic Convention and celebrating the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote.

## Meals on Wheels Launches GoFundMe

Meals on Wheels of College Park provides those in need in Prince George's County, including Greenbelt, with a food delivery service. Since the pandemic began, they have nearly doubled their client base, straining their resources. The organization is now seeking community support by launching a GoFundMe campaign to raise \$500,000. This will support the purchase of new kitchen appliances and supplies to feed those affected by COVID-19. Learn more or contribute at [charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/fund-us-to-feed-them](https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/fund-us-to-feed-them).

## Overeaters Meet

Overeaters Anonymous is continuing to hold its newcomer introductory meeting by Zoom at 6:45 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month and its regular Greenbelt meeting by Zoom or phone at 7:30 p.m. every Monday. Overeaters Anonymous is a 12-step program modelled after Alcoholics Anonymous that provides help and recovery for those troubled by overeating, undereating or other food-related behaviors. For more information, call 240-305-3433 or visit their D.C. region website at [oa-dcmetro.org](https://oa-dcmetro.org).

## Toastmasters Meet Online Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club has gone virtual. Those interested in improving communication or leadership skills are invited to join online or by phone every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Find details for joining remotely at [greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org](https://toastmastersclubs.org).



## At the Library

Greenbelt Library curbside service hours: Tuesdays, 1 to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays through Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m. Hold requests for up to 50 items and appointments scheduled via [catalog.pgcmcls.info/polaris](https://catalog.pgcmcls.info/polaris) or 240-455-5451. Pickup by pedestrians or by bicyclists must be indicated when scheduling a pickup time.

The quarantine period for returned items has been lengthened to 96 hours; items must be placed in the returned book slot, not handed to library staff. Customers should allow five to seven days for items to clear, so they may temporarily appear as overdue in patrons' accounts.

The Library is now fine-free: all existing overdue fines have been waived.

### Summer Reading

Customers can schedule pickup of Summer at Your Library prizes at [pgcmcls.info/curbside](https://pgcmcls.info/curbside). Prizes for multiple household members may be retrieved during one appointment.

Customers with questions are invited to call PGCMCLS Ask a Librarian at 240-455-5451 or [askalibrarian@pgcmcls.info](mailto:askalibrarian@pgcmcls.info) with questions. Library staff are available by phone Tuesdays 1 to 8 p.m., Wednesdays through Fridays 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 1 to 5 p.m.

### Virtual Events

While PGCMCLS branches remain closed, the library continues to offer virtual events for the public. A full schedule of upcoming programs may be accessed at [pgcmcls.info/virtual-events](https://pgcmcls.info/virtual-events).



## Mayor Will Convene Pre-budget Town Hall

On Friday, August 28, at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Colin Byrd will hold a virtual town hall, during which residents are welcome to share thoughts and concerns regarding city spending on the following activities or any other budget issues of importance to them: Animal Control, Economic Development, Greenbelt CARES (community-based, family-oriented counseling program dedicated to promoting responsible behavior and appropriate family management skills), Planning and Community Development, Police, Public Works, Recreation and Parks.

This town hall will address issues and programs to be supported by the Fiscal Year 2022 budget, which runs from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022.

For context, the Fiscal Year 2021 proposed budget is available at: [greenbeltnmd.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=16759](https://greenbeltnmd.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=16759). The adopted FY21 budget has not yet been posted.

Residents are encouraged to note if they feel the city is spending too little or too much on certain items. To get the Zoom link, register in advance for the meeting at: [us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212693](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212693).

Or, email [colinabyrd@gmail.com](mailto:colinabyrd@gmail.com) to request the registration link.



## This Year's 66th Annual Labor Day Parade Will Be Virtual

by Jim Tilton

For the past 65 years, Greenbelt has been treated to a parade down Crescent Road that kicked off at 10 a.m. on Labor Day morning. Unfortunately, with large crowds now prohibited due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Labor Day Festival Committee will not be able to put on its traditional parade this year. Instead viewers will be treated to a historical video of the Greenbelt Labor Day Parade that will be

streamed on the internet starting at 10 a.m. on Labor Day, September 7. The video will feature best in parade entrants over the past 20 years. In addition, earlier during Labor Day weekend (date and time TBD) the committee will stream the video of the entire 2019 Greenbelt Labor Day Parade. See [greenbeltlaborday.com/events-and-activities/parade-2](https://greenbeltlaborday.com/events-and-activities/parade-2) for updated information.



PHOTO BY JESS TUSSING

Greenbelt Police Department Honor Guard is poised to kick off the 2019 Labor Day Parade on Monday, September 2. Officially presenting the colors, they also lead the way for a colorful cast of characters from all facets of civic life: Grand Marshalls Michael Hartman and Lore Rosenthal, Master of Ceremonies Dave Zahren, the pipe and drum corps, marching band, schools, sports teams, fire and police departments and local businesses.

## Online Photo Show This Labor Day

Photographers are invited to share up to two of their favorite pictures with the community this Labor Day by entering the online Labor Day Photo Show.

Go to [greenbeltlaborday.com](https://greenbeltlaborday.com) to download the registration form with rules and instructions on where to email submissions, due no later than Friday, August 28.

## Retro Town Fair Goes Virtual

In 2012 the Greenbelt Museum and the 75th Anniversary Committee collaborated on the first Retro Town Fair at the Labor Day Festival.

See story on page 12 to find out how to submit photos of your creations to the 2020 Virtual Retro Town Fair.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Sunday Sept 13 at 3pm on ZOOM**

GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION, INC.

CONNECT WITH GATE ON

This year we will be hosting our Annual Membership Meeting online. To receive a link or phone number to join us on ZOOM please email:  
**[greenbeltaccess@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltaccess@gmail.com)**

We will be voting on three Board Member positions by anonymous online vote. Members will receive a link to vote for candidates the day before the meeting. Nominations will be open until

**August 30th at 11:59pm**  
**THIS IS A CORRECTION TO OUR PREVIOUS AD**

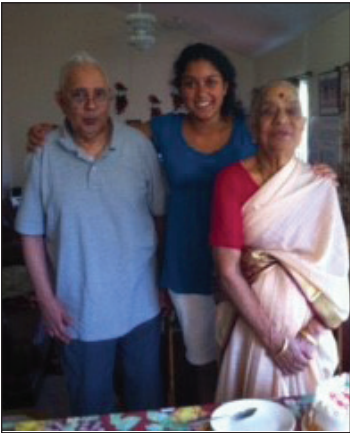
Members will also be voting on Proposed Amendments to the Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. By-Laws which can be accessed via our website:  
**<https://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/bylaws>**

**WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77**  
**FIND OUR PROGRAM SCHEDULE at [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](https://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org) by clicking on Channel**



# Obituaries

## Venkata Kowtha



From left, Venkata Kowtha, with granddaughter Vasudha Kowtha and his wife Janaki

Venkata Kowtha, 93, of 8009 Craddock Road died peacefully on August 16, 2020. He was the eldest of 11 children and has four siblings in the area and 12 grand- and great-grandchildren. He lived in Greenbelt from 1995 until his death and was active at the Siva Vishnu Temple. He was a fixture at Schrom Hills Park with his wife Janaki, with whom he shared more than 70 years of marriage.

## Eunice Barber



Eunice Barber

Eunice Elizabeth Schick Barber died on August 2, 2020. She was born on November 25, 1928, in Scranton, Pa., one of six children born to Carl and Mary Schick.

As a young girl she lived in a house across the street from a young man named Donald Thomas Barber, whom she admired. She confessed to her children in later years their meeting was love at first sight. That love culminated in their union as husband and wife in 1951. Their love and their life brought them to Green-

belt in 1953. In the coming years they raised their five daughters in a small two-bedroom GHI house.

Throughout her life Eunice was a devout Catholic, volunteering much of her time to St. Hugh's Church, St. Hugh's School and the Ladies of Charity. Along with church her family was her world. Her many recipes are still treasured in the family and in early years were very generously shared with neighbors and friends. Although all admit we can follow the recipe and it still will not taste like hers. As a talented seamstress she was known to easily create any garment you could dream up: wedding gowns (which included her own), bridesmaids and prom dresses, costumes and much more.

She was the wife of the late Donald Barber; mother of Lois (Marcus) Ladny, Beth (Harry) Fendlay, Connie Barber, the late Mary Donna Mangum and Nancy Ann Barber; mother-in-law of Tick Mangum; sister of Carl Schick; grandmother of Greg (Kristine) Mangum, Andrea (Scott) Ziemba, Shannon (Ken) Hyland, Sarah Fendlay, Tony Fendlay, Jimmy Barber, Jack Barber, Tiffany Axtell, the late Adam Ladny and Danny Barber; also survived by many great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She will be dearly missed by her family and many friends. Those wishing to honor her may give to the Maryland Province of Jesuits Fund and/or CALMRA, Inc. In her granddaughter Andi's words, "Heaven is now an even better place because we know she is there. Until we hug again – Rest in Peace."

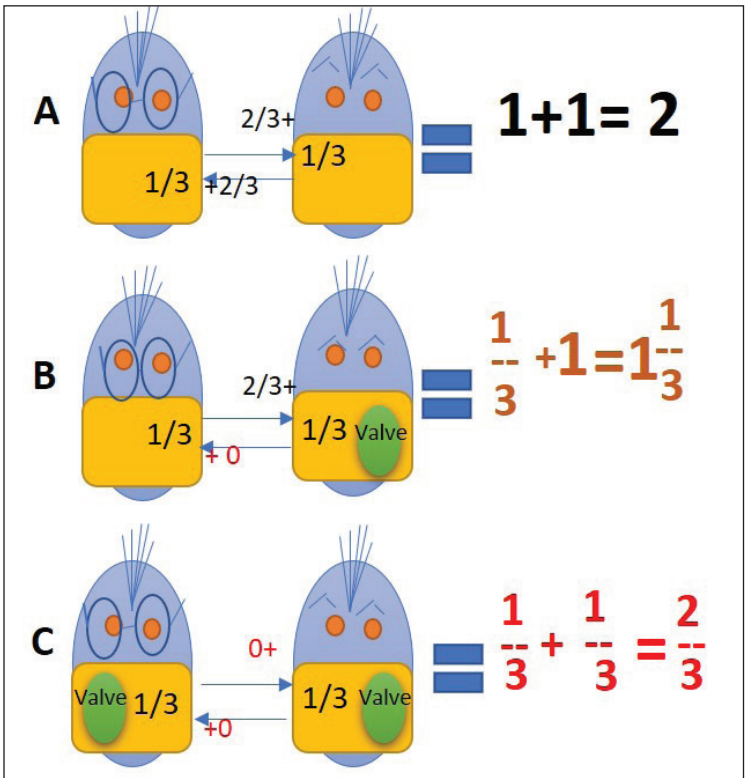
# Valved Masks Are a Bad Idea, Less Effective Against COVID

by Cathie Meetre

Fabric masks like those made by the Greenbelt Mask Makers do not offer the same protection as N 95 masks but they do offer some protection. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the protection from these masks is provided less to the wearer and more to those around the wearer, because the mask protects from the virus escaping better than from virus getting in.

Some masks, often referred to as Exhale masks, have a ventilation valve (VV) or vent. The valve opens when breathing OUT and closes when breathing IN and this makes it easier for the person to exhale with the mask on. Incoming air is filtered but outgoing air – containing the virus if the wearer has it – is NOT filtered but goes straight out of the valve. This means everybody around the wearer is exposed to the virus just as if the person wasn't wearing a mask at all. The VV mask gives the user their own smaller part of the protection but provides zero protection to others. Many people with COVID-19 either have no symptoms or haven't yet exhibited them – so a person can be infected without knowing it.

The diagram shows the effect if two people with masks are in a room and none (A), one (B) or both (C) use the VV mask. In the diagram, 1 is the total protection offered by a mask (for the example, the 1 unit of protection is divided into 1/3 for the wearer and 2/3 for those around the wearer). If one person wears a VV mask and the other a cloth



Exhale masks provide much less overall protection than regular masks.

mask, the VV wearer has the same protection as before – but the other person is less protected. If both have VV masks, neither is well protected because they can contaminate each other. The VV mask wearer is only in the cat-bird seat if everybody else wears a cloth mask. As soon as

someone else wears a VV mask, they are both worse off.

The CDC recommends against valved or vented masks. For more information, see [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html).



The Bible Says...

When I am afraid,  
I will put my trust in God  
Psalm 56:3



Sunday Worshp Services  
10a-11a ONLINE  
[MCFcc.org/online](https://mcfcc.org/online)

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)



301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

In person worship services cancelled for now.

Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc.

10 a.m. Sunday mornings



"The light of men is Justice. Quench it not with the contrary winds of oppression and tyranny. The purpose of justice is the appearance of unity among men."

Baha'u'llah



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

[www.greenbeltbahais.org](https://www.greenbeltbahais.org)

Worship with us at  
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Biblical  
Confessional  
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(online) at 7:00pm  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](https://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)  
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<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](https://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)  
301-474-4212  
[@GreenbeltBaptist](https://www.instagram.com/GreenbeltBaptist)

Greenbelt Community Church



Rev. Deb Vaughn, Guest Minister  
Check us out on Facebook Live  
this Sunday at 10:15 AM  
<https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD>

1 Hillside Road

301-474-6171

## Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue  
that respects tradition and becomes your extended family  
in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm  
Saturday morning services at 10:00am  
All services and activities are currently virtual  
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](https://www.mishkantorah.org)  
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

## Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

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Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](https://www.pbuuc.org)



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August 23 10 a.m.  
"Circle of Life"

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Worship Associate Susannah Schiller

We celebrate new beginnings and grieve losses and changes in our lives and sense of culture. ONLINE ONLY. Streaming information at <http://bit.ly/PBAug2020>

## ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

RETURN TO PUBLIC CELEBRATION

With joy, we return to the public celebration of Mass. Attendance is limited to 100 persons per Mass, all (3 and up) must wear masks. All details available on our website. Mon-Fri 7:15am, Sat 9am; Sat vigil 5pm; Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am  
Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm

135 Crescent Rd.  
[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](https://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)





Condolences to the family and friends of longtime resident Eunice Barber who died on August 2.

Our sympathies also to the family and friends of Venkata Kowtha who died on August 16.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

City Notes

Public Works spruced up the armory building, painting over graffiti and removing brush and debris. Refuse/Recycling collected 31.41 tons of refuse and 13.00 tons of recyclables. Environmental staff hiked the Forest Preserve to predict impacts of the maglev.

Animal Control rescued a baby opossum injured by a resident's cat. A newly arrived rabbit, five adult cats and three kittens are sheltered. One cat had dental work thanks to WAGS. A dog bite was investigated.

The successful virtual Summer Camp season included Camp Encore's filled-to-capacity Shakespeare program. Old Greenbelt Theatre's Outdoor Movies at Braden Field, assisted by Park Rangers, sold out through August; September shows are planned. The Virtual Recreation Center features Fall Activities: virtual, outdoor and hybrid. Aquatic & Fitness Center staff are planning family and recreational swimming sessions.

At the Community Center, Therapeutic Recreation hosted a fully booked Red Cross Blood Drive. GAIL/CARES managed a diaper distribution, serving 40 families. Therapeutic Recreation distributed frozen meals to 39 seniors.

Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



I am my brother's keeper.

Paid ad



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 24-28

Monday, August 24 at 8:00pm **COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: Dog Park (Reopening Rules & Regulations)** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 & 996 and streaming on www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Tuesday, August 25 at 7:00pm **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION** On the Agenda: Report on Council's Work Session with Advisory Committee Chairs, "Review School Liaison Assignments/Committee Assignments, Clubs program: status, discussion of future and/or possible changes, Planning for a virtual first semester of 2020-21 school year and Grants Program update

Tuesday, August 25 at 7:00pm **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES** On the Agenda: Discussion about the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree dedication in October

Tuesday, August 25 at 7:30pm **GREEN ACES** On the Agenda: Royal Farms Site Plan and Sustainability Framework and Green Team Circles updates.

Wednesday, August 26 at 8:00pm **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/County Council Chair Todd Turner and At-Large Council Members Mel Franklin and Calvin Hawkins** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 & 996 and streaming on www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Thursday, August 27 at 7:00pm **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING** On the Agenda: Delineating Community Garden & Forest Preserve boundaries for work session Nov. 2, Protocol for soliciting public comment (city website, FB, social media), Maglev plan of action and Stream naming for indigenous tribe

**This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov.**

CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO ONE OF THE CITY'S CHARITABLE FUNDS

The City of Greenbelt receives no portion of these funds nor does it charge an administrative fee for processing the donations

**GOOD SAMARITAN FUND TO ASSIST ST. HUGH'S FOOD PANTRY:** This fund is overseen by the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association (GILA). The St. Hugh Food Pantry will also take food donations that are dropped outside of the church office at 135 Crescent Road. Thank you so much for your help!

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND:** Established to accept and disburse donations received to assist Greenbelt residents to pay rent to avoid possible eviction. Approximately a dozen individuals receive assistance from these funds each fiscal year.

Donate online at greenbeltmd.gov/donations OR you can drop off or mail a check made out to fund to 25 Crescent Road, 20770, Greenbelt, MD

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Elections
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board
- Public Safety Advisory Committee
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee

For more information call 301- 474-8000



## GREENBELT MUSEUM

# VIRTUAL

# RETRO TOWN FAIR

New this year a Mask/Face Covering category! Share your best COVID-fighting creation!

---

**TO PARTICIPATE**

1. Take a photo of your item.
2. Send us an email with **Retro Town Fair Entry** as the subject line. In the email let us know what category you're entering (see below for list).
3. Attach your photo to the email. Please use a jpeg format. Please submit via email between Friday, August 21—Friday, August 28. Send to education@greenbeltmuseum.org.

**CATEGORIES**

**Flowers and Vegetables**  
(examples: cut flowers, garden flowers you've grown, fruit or vegetables you've grown)

**Canned Goods**  
(examples: preserves and jams, vegetables, pickles)

**Needlework**  
(examples: crochet, knitting, embroidery, sewing)

**Crafts, Open Category**  
(examples: jewelry, woodworking, dollmaking)

**Mask/Face Covering**

**Legacy Handcraft Exhibition**  
Share an item that's an heirloom handcraft made by an entrant, or by a family member, more than 10 years ago. Please include relevant information about the item. These items will not be judged, they are for viewing only.

**SCHEDULE**

**Fri., August 21 - Fri., August 28**  
Submit all entries  
Send to: education@greenbeltmuseum.org

**Sunday, September 6**  
Winners will be announced on the Museum's website: greenbeltmuseum.org

Questions? Contact Sheila Maffay-Tuthill at education@greenbeltmuseum.org.  
For more information visit the Museum's website, greenbeltmuseum.org.  
Thank you for participating!

**GREENBELT MUSEUM**

## CENSUS TAKERS TO START FOLLOW UP IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

The Census Bureau announced that it will begin following up with households that have not yet responded to the 2020 Census on July 30, 2020.

**Health and Safety:** Census takers are trained to wear a mask while conducting their work and will follow CDC and local public health guidelines when they visit.


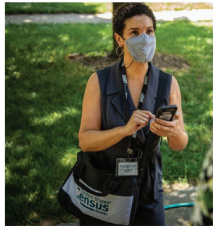

**Identifying a Census Taker:**  
Households can identify the census takers by their:

- ID badge with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date
- A Census Bureau-issued phone

**Self Respond:** Households can still self-respond online, by phone or by mail!

**To respond online:** https://my2020census.gov

**To respond by phone:** 844-330-2020



This project has been financed in part with State Funds from Maryland's 2020 Census Grant Program. Project content or opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the State of Maryland or any of its instrumentalities.



## Greenbelt Recreation

# FALL CLASSES

arts  
music  
dance  
circus  
fitness  
archery  
preschool

visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation)

painting "Clever Girl" by Rachel Cross, instructor, Maryland Wildlife art class



For City Information, services, events, meetings and more, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)  
Follow the City of Greenbelt on Facebook and Twitter @cityofgreenbelt

Greenbelt Forest Preserve Advisory Board  
**Sunrise Tract Walk-Through to observe I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes impact area in the Greenbelt Forest Preserve**  
**Saturday, August 22, 2020. 9:00am.**  
Meet at corner of MD Trade Center Drive across from Holiday Inn Greenbelt (up the hill from the Greenbelt Dog Park and recycling bins)



[www.greenbeltmd.gov/managedlanestudy](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/managedlanestudy)



# Greenbelters Launch a Satellite That Sees Clouds from All Sides

by Amy S. Hansen

What happens to the clouds when fires put more smoke in the air? Or when winds send African soil into the atmosphere? Greenbelters Vanderlei Martins and Roberto Fernandez-Borda helped design a satellite to find out.

Working out of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, with funding from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, physicist Martins, who is the project's principal investigator, and lead payload physicist/engineer Fernandez-Borda created HARP, the Hyper-Angular Rainbow Polarimeter Cubesat. Greenbelter Brent McBride also worked on the project while an undergraduate and continued through graduate work.

The small but mighty satellite was launched November 2, 2019 from Wallops Island, Va., and headed for the International Space Station. After being set in orbit, HARP had first light – its instruments were turned on - on April 16, 2020. The team had data and a preliminary presentation by June 23. And then, even with that tight a time table, they won the Small Satellite Mission of the Year on August 6, an award given out by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

The satellite is about the size of a store-bought loaf of bread, with a payload taking up only half of its volume. HARP is a proof-of-technology satellite, Martins said. It is designed more to show the work that can be done, rather than to collect lots of data, and the team is already building HARP2 to collect global data. However, Martins is excited by the data that HARP is collecting, proving that the technology works just fine and that the



Physicist Vanderlei Martins and engineers Roberto Fernandez-Borda and Dominik Cieslak gather around their cubesat, HARP, before its launch.

information can help in the fight against global climate change.

Specifically, HARP looks at the clouds using essentially polarized sunglasses. Just as sunglasses help a person look past the sun's glare, HARP's polarized filters and prism divide and rotate the light so that researchers can take out the glare and make observations from several angles. "Every time HARP flies over a region, we see that region from multiple perspectives," said Martins.

HARP's conglomerate of pictures means scientists can peer inside and around the clouds. Will they see dust? Wildfire smoke? Plain rain droplets? "We can tell a lot of information about the type of aerosols or particles around the clouds," Martins said, "including size and shape and distribution patterns."

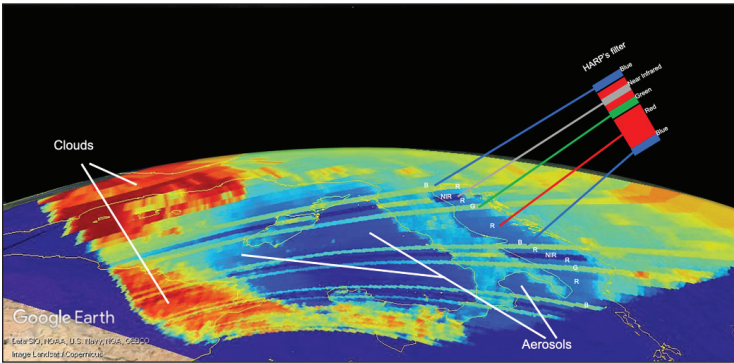
Understanding aerosols is critical to understanding global climate. Aerosols may reflect light

away from Earth or conversely trap energy inside Earth's atmosphere. Aerosols also affect global precipitation. For example, wildfire smoke may enter clouds and cause a feedback loop that causes less precipitation and therefore drier areas and more wildfires. Other aerosol effects may produce more precipitation.

Almost immediately after starting its orbit, HARP took an intimate look at a Sahara dust storm and how the dust entered the atmosphere and then fell to Earth in the Americas. Martins said these kinds of storms happen frequently, but they were glad to capture the phenomenon with HARP.

HARP's mission is expected to last 12 to 15 months, said Martins, but he is hopeful that this small satellite is the first of many using this technology.

See more images from HARP at [esi.umbc.edu/hyper-angular-rainbow-polarimeter](http://esi.umbc.edu/hyper-angular-rainbow-polarimeter).



HARP filters four wavelengths of light.

# Crush Funk Pop-up Concert Serenades Charlestowne Village

by Patrick Gleason



Crush Funk plays pop-up concert for residents of Charlestowne Village.

We're living in a time when surprises are welcomed and kindness is needed. And Crush Funk provided just that for the residents of Charlestowne Village with a free pop-up concert Monday evening, August 17. Four members of the Washington, D.C.-based ensemble serenaded residents who gathered on their lawns, danced in the street and watched from balconies to enjoy the eclectic combination of jazz, go-go and funk music.

Since the beginning of the area's quarantine, Crush Funk has performed over 80 similar concerts from Alexandria to Baltimore. The band consists of graduates from local historically Black colleges and universities including Howard University, the University of the District of Columbia and Bowie State University. Infusing the evening with sounds of go-go – the musical genre born and bred in our nation's

capital – and clad in shirts hailing the District, the hour-long treat had a distinct local flavor. The evening's ensemble included a trombone, trumpet, sousaphone and drums with occasional call-and-response interaction with the audience. Renditions of Ain't No Sunshine and When the Saints Go Marching In especially pleased those gathered, though distanced, for a respite from isolation – unified by the self-giving gift of community. After the final number, the band members mingled with their audience in a moment reminding us of what we've missed most in the last five months.



A daylily blooms near Greenbriar Condos.

**Drop Us a Line!**

Electronically, that is.

[editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com)

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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Accredited by NAEYC's National Academy of Early Childhood Programs

[www.GreenbeltChildrensCenter.com](http://www.GreenbeltChildrensCenter.com)

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*Partial funding for income eligible families*
- Early Childhood Care and Education:
  - Preschool
  - Pre-K
  - School Age Program Full Day

**MD Child Care Scholarship 866-243-8796**

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- Hours: :7:30 – 6pm

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**5 Check Rating by MD State Department of Education**

Additional funding for the PGCPs Pre-k program is made possible by the U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services under the authority of Sections 14005 and 14006 of the ARRA and the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2014; Equal opportunity provider

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**naeyc**  
Accredited



A Review

But Soft, What Light Through Yonder Zoom Screen Breaks?

by Melissa Sites

To be an artist is to think outside the box – the box in this case being the ubiquitous Zoom screen. The Rude Mechanicals, resident at Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC), offered two live Zoom performances of Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet over the weekend, directed by Claudia Bach.

The show was initially planned as a full production at GAC, but after only two weeks of rehearsal, such gatherings were banned because of quarantine. For many months, the group had hopes that a live performance might be possible, but ultimately, the choice was made to use Zoom.

Each actor is performing from a separate space, and isolation became a theme of the production. Audra Jacobs, as Romeo, appears to be a teenager at home in her room. Her emotional decisions play out against the backdrop of a poster with a night scene of a city, and a large planning white board. Although the backdrops were not designed, Jacobs gave a dreamy interpretation of Romeo’s character, and the way her plans (and those of others in the play) crumble to nothing is highlighted by the background of her room.

In the talkback after the Sunday production, several of the actors spoke about the choice to re-gender Romeo as female, and to present a posse of young women in Romeo, Mercutio, Benvolio, Juliet, her Nurse and the antagonistic Tybalt. Sarah Pfanz gave an energetic and engaging performance as Mercutio, a brilliant person whose potential is wasted by the petty feuds of the families of Verona. Another standout performer was Wes Dennis, playing the combined role of Prince of Verona and Count Paris, whose professional appearance and office backdrop lent credence to his gentility, sincerity and soft-spoken disgust with the warring factions and the havoc they wreak on Verona.

Even with a play as well known as Romeo and Juliet, ev-

ery production has an opportunity to unveil new understandings of the characters and the dynamics of their interactions. This time, the problems of Juliet’s parents stood out. Lady Capulet (played by Tiffany Waters) tells Juliet not to mind being married so young, for she herself was married at Juliet’s age. Waters plays the woman with a cold and forbidding air.

When Old Capulet (Joshua Engel) rages against Juliet’s desire not to marry Paris, the dynamic of isolation between the two parents comes into focus. The type of political marriage that Old Capulet envisions between his daughter and his friend is the same type of marriage that united him and his wife. Lady Capulet cannot admit that Juliet’s union with the Prince might be a bad idea at such a young age, because the exact same thing happened to her. Old Capulet is enraged by Juliet’s refusal, because in this production he has a wife and a daughter, but no love binds them together. He clearly holds the Prince in much higher esteem than he does his daughter, just as Lady Capulet seems to thirst for vengeance as she grieves Tybalt’s death much more than she sympathizes with Juliet.

Tyler Haggard as Friar Laurence and Justin Bigelow as the hapless Friar John, drive the final nails in the play’s twin coffins. Because Friar John is quarantined, Friar Laurence’s vital mis-sive never reaches Romeo, and the two young lovers each kill themselves. Haggard brings a quiet intensity to his part, which Bigelow balances with tragic nonchalance.

The Rude Mechanicals brought passion and creative energy to their Zoom production, which can now be found on YouTube. Donations to GAC and The Rude Mechanicals are welcome at their websites. This reviewer encourages all to seek out online artistic productions until theater lovers can once again gather safely in person.



PHOTO BY MELISSA SITES

Audra Jacobs plays Romeo, against a backdrop of a poster with a night scene of a city and a large planning white board, highlighting the way her plans (and those of others in the play) crumble to nothing.

visit  
www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

The Greenbelt Forest Preserve: How to Manage the Trails?

by Bryan Bruns

The Greenbelt Forest Preserve is many things to many people: a retreat to escape into nature; spooky Halloween excitement on the Pumpkin Walk; a place to walk the dog; a mysterious world in which to wander and maybe get a little lost; childhood memories of friends playing in the woods; home to birds, deer, fox, fish, fungi and many more fauna and flora in a rich, recovering ecosystem; trees surrounding a path for running; lush summer green, glorious autumn display, frozen winter snowscape and bursting blooms in spring. All these and more are part of what makes the Forest Preserve a local treasure to be protected and sustained.

A surrounding forest was part of the original idea for a belt of green around the town built in the 1930s. Most of that land has since been lost to highways, homes and other development. However, some parcels of land were regained, after prolonged effort, and turned into the Greenbelt Forest Preserve, including the North Woods and Hamilton Woods located between Greenbelt Homes Inc. and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, and smaller tracts: Boxwood, Belle Pointe and the Sunrise Tract in Greenbelt East.

These tracts include numerous trails, but until now these trails have not been maintained by the city. In 2019, the Greenbelt City Council approved new Stewardship Guidelines for the Forest Preserve, which direct preparation of a Master Trails Plan about how trails in the Preserve will be cared for. As part of preparing the trails plan, the Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB) is seeking comments from the public about the importance of the trails and how to care for them in ways that respect and enhance the natural character and goals of the Preserve.

The priority at this point is to learn more about what citizens of Greenbelt want and aspire to, in terms of principles and practices for trails in the Preserve. While there is much experience and many examples to draw on, the goal is trail stewardship that suits the special conditions and goals of each tract of the Preserve. The topics identified in the Stewardship Guidelines can, in part, be framed as a series of questions:

- How do we keep the Preserve wild while having trails that allow access?
- To what degree should the trails be maintained? For example, what should be done when a tree falls across the trail, brush grows into the trail, runoff erodes a trail to form a gully, a stream is undermining the bank beneath a trail, or similar phenomena occur?



One well-trodden trail leads through a stand of tall trees.



A Chicken of the Woods mushroom grows on a fallen log.



With no current city plan for trail maintenance, problem areas, like this muddy spot, are fixed, or not, by random users of the Preserve.

- Photos by Bryan Bruns

- What, if anything, should be done about stream crossings and muddy spots in trails?
- What areas should be protected and thus avoided by trails?
- Are there trails that should be closed? Rerouted?
- Are there places where new trails should be created, for example in the Sunrise Tract next to the Dog Park or to complete a loop in the Belle Pointe Tract?
- In planning for trail stewardship, what else needs attention and should be considered, beyond the questions and the topics identified in the Stewardship

Guidelines?

The FPAB will hold an on-line scoping meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 12. To register for the meeting and receive the link for virtual attendance, send an email to [forestpreserve@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:forestpreserve@greenbeltmd.gov). Written comments can also be sent to this address. For a copy of the Stewardship Guidelines and additional information about the Greenbelt Forest Preserve see [greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/forest-preserve-advisory-board](http://greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/forest-preserve-advisory-board).

GREENBELT  
FARMERS MARKET

10-2 Sunday.  
Parking lot  
by Roosevelt  
Center

Masks, distancing  
required. Entry metered.

[Greenbeltfarmersmarket.org](http://Greenbeltfarmersmarket.org)

We accept/match SNAP

FEED GREENBELT

REQUEST A MEAL  
DONATE A MEAL

[MCFcc.org/FeedGreenbelt](http://MCFcc.org/FeedGreenbelt)

Each \$10 donation provides 1 reheatable meal to a Greenbelt resident in need. Meals are balanced and delicious. They are made from whole foods and are free from chemicals and preservatives.

Meals are offered on Wednesdays and Saturdays for contactless pickup at The New Deal Cafe front patio from 4:30pm-5pm. Free contactless delivery is available. The signup deadline is Sunday noon for the following Wednesday & Saturday.

Hosted by DC Vegan and MCF Community Church



BELTWAY continued from page 1

modes of transportation.

All of the study alternatives, save no build, call for a dynamic tolling approach where tolls would be adjusted based upon traffic conditions to ensure that speeds on the managed lanes remain at or above 45 miles per hour and that maximum volumes are not exceeded in those lanes. While the toll rates have not yet been set, the DEIS estimates that tolls would range between \$0.68 and \$0.77 per mile.

Porter noted some changes that have occurred since the project was initially proposed. The project is envisioned as a public-private partnership, where private entities would build and operate the new lanes. Although initial claims about the project were that the private sector would fund the full cost at no expense to taxpayers, that is no longer true.

The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) now estimates that it would cost \$1.3 to \$2 billion to move infrastructure affected by the roadwork. This cost would be borne by ratepayers.

The DEIS also indicates that a state subsidy of \$482 million to \$1.08 billion would be needed, most likely to be paid at the beginning of the project.

The agencies responsible for the Managed Lanes study are the FHWA and the SHA.

**Wetlands**

The JPA pertains to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which prohibits use of “publicly owned lands of a public park, recreation area or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, state or local significance or land of an historic site of national, state or local significance unless there is no feasible and prudent avoidance alternative.”

Within the study corridor, Porter reports, are 111 such properties. Five are located in Greenbelt: the Greenbelt Historic District, Buddy Attick Park, Indian Springs Park, McDonald Field and Greenbelt Park.

The FHWA intends to apply de minimis impact for all but Greenbelt Park saying that the impact on those properties from the project consist of minor impacts along the edge of the

properties in question. The study notes that there will be coordination with the city on the evaluation review of city properties.

**Environment**

Porter notes the city’s concern, oft repeated, that the planners are ignoring the impact of the project on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and air pollution. The DEIS claims that the build alternatives will result in only a “slight increase in GHG emissions” based upon the projection that by 2040 vehicles will be more energy efficient and that the extra lanes will reduce congestion and increase speeds.

Porter notes strong concerns about the impacts on wetlands and waterways in the area during construction. The DEIS finds that 16.1 to 16.5 acres of wetlands and up to 156,984 linear feet of streams could be affected. It would also affect up to 1,515 acres of forest canopy.

While the National Park Service raised the idea of having no direct access to the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, the planners determined that direct access was needed to meet the project’s goals. The ramp from eastbound Greenbelt Road to the southbound Parkway will be realigned. It is estimated that 69.3 acres of the Parkway will be impacted.

**Public Hearings**

The virtual hearings will be held on Thursday, August 20; Tuesday, August 25; and Thursday, September 3. There will be three sessions each day at 9 a.m. to noon, 1 to 4 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. Two in-person meetings are planned for Tuesday, September 1 from noon to 9 p.m. in Largo and Thursday, September 10 in Rockville. Advance registration is required for the in-person meetings by calling 833-858-5960. The official U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hearing will be part of the August 25 hearings. The draft reports as well as details about the meetings and future updates are available online at 495-270-P3.com/deis.

Porter’s report on the DEIS is available on the city’s website as part of the agenda packet for the August 10 meeting (see [greenbeltnmd.gov/government/city-council/minutes-and-agendas](https://greenbeltnmd.gov/government/city-council/minutes-and-agendas)).

COUNCIL continued from page 1

GS, and once completed will fall primarily into the city’s hands to maintain, with help from the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) in its video monitoring system. This multi-agency project is a partnership with the city, county, WMATA, Pepco and Maryland Department of the Environment. A mandatory stormwater management review has been completed, as well as an agreement with WMATA to build on their property. WMATA is active with Pepco in the design of the trail’s electrical system. In spite of a two-month delay due to COVID-19, the project is moving forward, with construction expected to start in spring to early summer 2021 and last 18 months. So far, \$250,000 has been spent on engineering, and the construction cost is set at \$2.4 million. The city has set aside \$1.8 million for the project with plans for acquiring further money through grants as things proceed. Woodlawn will contribute to construction costs as well.

Ma was concerned about the impact the trail would have on an already stressed parking situation, as more people would conceivably park in the community in order to use the trail. Hruby was a bit skeptical that this would become an issue, as the trail’s three-quarter-mile span would make it an unlikely option for Metro users. Drewry pointed out that GS does have a resident parking permit system, which limits parking on neighborhood streets. Ma also reported a problem with double-parking by delivery and other trucks, posing a traffic risk.

Parking availability was a ma-

jor topic of the meeting. Planning staff presented their two most favored solutions: making North and South Center Drives into one-way streets and striped-end-line parking lanes rather than striped individual spaces on Greenbelt Station Parkway to maximize parking. The potential of transforming green space into parking, while favored by some GS residents, was deemed unattractive by staff as it would require an overhaul of the development’s site plan and impinge negatively on the community as a whole. Mayor Colin Byrd said that, while he respects staff’s counsel on this, he would be willing to explore this more if resident interest was high enough. Councilmember Judith Davis felt that this option should be the ultimate last resort.

Davis stressed that many GS units have parking garages and personal parking areas and that they should be used for such, instead of for storage.

Byrd encouraged the GS community to come to a consensus on parking solutions in order to aid in the final decision. GS resident Eric Kruszewski has been instrumental in this effort and was eager for staff advice that would “streamline the process.” Planning staff is in the process of responding to some parking alternative suggestions from GS to be released in a couple weeks.

Dangerous speeding on Greenbelt Station Parkway (GSP) was brought up by Drewry. The possibility of installing speed humps was debated and was decided to be a helpful, if not perfect solution. Council pointed out that speed humps can be problematic in that they can stymie the

effective transit of emergency vehicles. Hruby and Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers said that they would look into implementing covert speed sensors that would provide a clear analysis of the situation, including the times of day of the most violations and the rates of speed.

Recreation Director Greg Varda gave an update on the city’s recreation efforts during the health emergency. Several of the efforts to introduce more recreation opportunities to GS, like an exercise facility, are on hold due to the pandemic, but will be revisited.

The new sod and trees at Central Park and its new extension at GS is surviving despite being challenged by extreme heat in July. The lack of shade is an obstacle to the park being used actively.

Bowers stated that there was “no large increase in crime” at GS, with the trend being centered on auto and construction-site theft. Resident use of the Neighbors App by Ring has been “helpful in some cases” with video and information sharing, said Bowers.

Davis reminded the GS residents that their children are now enrolled in Greenbelt schools, “one good victory.” Information on busing will be available before in-person attendance resumes.

Councilmember Edward Putens declared “welcome aboard!” to GS residents, as they are “starting to take care of your own city.” He looked to a growing partnership of the city and GS as they “do all things together” and determine each of their responsibilities, such as with the WMATA trail.

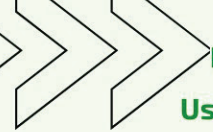
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Frolicking fawns forage near the Forest.

PHOTO BY CHARLES JACKMAN



# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, [www.greenbeltmd.gov/police](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police)  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

**Theft**  
August 11, 2:02 p.m., 7500 Hanover Parkway. An unattended cell phone was taken from an office suite.  
August 11, 6:08 p.m., 5909 Cherrywood Court. A purple Trek mountain bike was stolen.  
August 11, 12:44 p.m., 7501 Greenway Center Drive. An unattended wallet was taken from a counter. It was recovered by a citizen who was nearby and returned to its owner.  
August 12, 10:56 p.m., 6113 Breezewood Court. A package

was taken from the front stoop of a residence.  
**Vehicle Crime**  
A white 1998 Ford van with Maryland tags was taken from 6229 Springhill Court on August 7.  
Money was removed from a car on August 6, when the front passenger door was forced open and damaged in the process.  
A rear passenger window was broken at 7500 Hanover Parkway on August 7 and a back windshield was broken at 6100 Breezewood Court on August 11.

*The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.*  
*Call 1-866-411-TIPS.*  
*People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.*



## ELECTION continued from page 1

envelope beginning the last week in August. This will not be the ballot itself, but rather a form to request the ballot be sent to the voter's current address, in a two-step process.  
Most election officials expect most people to return the request form for a mail-in ballot.  
For those who would rather vote in person and do not send back the mail-in request form, the next big change for in-person voting is that early voting will now begin on Monday, October 26, and be conducted at voting centers within each county; anyone registered in that county may go to any voting center in the county to vote.  
There will be nine continuous days of in-person voting beginning on Monday, October 26 through Tuesday, November 3

from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. There will be no gap between early voting days and election day, Tuesday, November 3.  
Normally the state opens close to 2,000 separate precincts for a general election. Currently the estimate of voting centers statewide is expected to be about one-tenth of that number, or 200 for the minimum number of early voting center locations, but they will be open for the nine days. The plan is that this will spread out the possible lines and require far fewer staff and locations to operate, and that people will not wait until the last day. The State Board anticipates that most people will opt to vote by mail, so that the in-person voting is mainly for newly registered voters or those whose requested ballot has not arrived by mail.

### My Perspective

# Council Must Swim Together To Successfully Fight Maglev

by Greg Simmons

When it comes to the BW SC-Maglev Project, someone needs to tell the Greenbelt City Council to "Swim down!"  
When it comes to describing the city's efforts to deal with the multibillion-dollar maglev project aimed directly at our community, the scene in Finding Nemo where the plucky clownfish with a lucky fin guides a group of fish out of peril with a simple, unifying instruction comes to mind.  
Because even with all seven members of the council at one point or another saying they don't like the maglev project, watching the August 10 regular meeting about what should be done next reminded me of a bunch of scared fish in a net.  
The last significant maglev action brought to vote was council's November 25, 2019 decision to issue a request for qualifications (RFQ) to begin the process of

hiring an outside attorney to review the project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), which will provide a major opportunity for comment in the federal review process established for the project. At the time, the DEIS was expected as early as December 2019.  
Since then, the project went on an unofficial pause, but is again readying for approval. Documents posted for last week's city meeting show the DEIS is expected maybe as early as March 2021. While that may sound like a lot of time, that may only be just enough time for council to: 1) coalesce around action; 2) identify what funds are needed to do it; and 3) if contract hires are needed, issue bids, review and act upon them.  
To be fair, it's not that the city government is doing nothing. Despite COVID-19 wrecking everything, including the budget, city staff have been trying to keep tabs on the project, and councilmembers and the city attorney's office have all been looking to find legal help, whether it is pro bono (i.e., free) or otherwise. City documents indicate maglev opposition is a top priority. Councilmembers are trying to take the pulse of the community. Mayor Colin Byrd said last week he wants to hold a meeting with Representative Steny Hoyer on the topic.  
But despite the city's efforts, the RFQ issued last winter has not produced an outside attorney. At last week's full meeting, Councilmember Judith Davis asked for a worksession to be scheduled this week, but nothing happened.  
So for those in this city who believe maglev will hurt Greenbelt, and who believe softer statements opposing the project won't get the job done, the question is this: What should the council do? And then, the tougher part, how?  
The first thing council needs to do is make a decision – as a group.  
My proposition for them is this: put the idea of hiring an attorney on hold. More importantly, the city needs to have in place a firm to provide technical, professional, environmental and geotechnical engineering review of the DEIS. If council truly feels it cannot move forward without additional outside legal counsel, then it should budget for both

outside counsel and technical expertise – but scoped only to responding to the DEIS to keep costs as low as possible.  
Law firms just aren't built to have both kinds of work under the same roof. And the rare attorney with professional heft to tackle both the maglev DEIS with its engineering or environmental issues and whatever else the city might add to the legal scope, will charge accordingly.  
In response to an email I sent, City Manager Nicole Ard reminded me that "the budget is a plan" and can be adjusted "to address any significant changes," whether it's the maglev, the pandemic, or other unexpected costs and crises facing the city. Given the long-term potential impact on Greenbelt by the maglev project, and the basic cost savings of making a relatively small effort now rather than a significantly more expensive legal fight down the road – on what will almost certainly be significantly less favorable grounds – council should be setting aside funds now for March.  
Also, don't be shy: ask Prince George's County Public Schools if they'd like to chip in. Eleanor Roosevelt High School and several other public schools are also in the project path. If PGCPSS says no, let Greenbelt citizens know why, please.  
But whatever council does, for them to do their jobs to serve the residents of Greenbelt, they have to put something up for vote, and soon. Come on guys – you're all on the same side. Swim down.  
Greg Simmons is a Greenbelt East resident who lives in a condominium community in the proposed path of the SCMaglev project. He can be reached at [greg.simmons.esq@gmail.com](mailto:greg.simmons.esq@gmail.com).

Shoots burst through at the edge of the Forest Preserve.




PHOTO BY DAVID SHAPIRO



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# Mask Makers Still Focused On Local Supply Initiatives

by Cathie Meetre

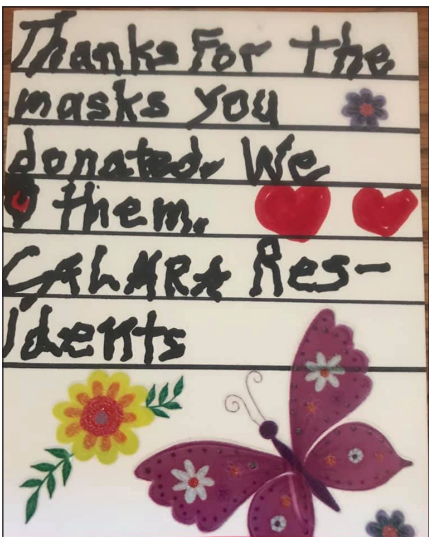
Although the first crisis of mask availability is past and most people can get masks from many sources, there’s still a need to supply them locally to those in need, and Greenbelt Mask Makers (GMM) continues to rise to the occasion. Over 6,000 masks have been distributed since the first efforts in March, and more than 30 Greenbelters have contributed in a variety of ways to the success of the activity. Some sew, some deliver, some maintain fabric supplies. It’s another occasion where Greenbelters have pulled together to accomplish something spectacular.

### Masks to Communities

Many of the masks go to local organizations in our area, for example CALMRA, a facility in Laurel that cares for adults with cognitive disabilities. Masks have also been sent to children’s programs in the area and distributed by Doctors Community Hospital workers in their outreach efforts among seniors. The masks don’t go to medical personnel, who are now well-supplied, but to patients and families in the community who have poor access to resources and who are often struggling in so many ways: food anxiety, illness and unemployment.

### Masks at the Lake

Each week, masks from GMM are taken out by police and rangers at Buddy Attick Park to give to park visitors who would otherwise have to be turned away. This allows city staff to have positive interactions instead of angry confrontations in times that are already stressful. Kudos to Sylvia Hester, who has made the majority of these masks and continues to supply the police with 50 to 100 masks per week, and to Captain Gordon Pracht of the Greenbelt Police Department, who instigated and implemented the program. The program’s fabric purchases are underwritten by a generous donation to the Freedom Foundation (the sponsoring organization for GMM) made by Eric Case of MyAffordableCoverage.com.



Residents of the CALMRA facility in Laurel give their heartfelt thanks to Greenbelt Mask Makers.

PHOTO COURTESY CALMRA

### Masks at the Market

Masks made by GMM are also available at the Greenbelt Farmers Market. Though a donation is requested, the main purpose is to get masks on faces, so the masks are free for those who need them. Many make a donation and any money received in this way goes to buy Co-op gift cards that are distributed by the Ladies of Charity of St. Hugh’s with their food pantry items. The food pantry distributes only non-perishable food – the gift cards send the shopper to the Co-op where they can stock up on fresh fruit and dairy products. Fabric for these masks is also provided by the Freedom Foundation through donations by Greenbelters.

Check out the GMM Facebook page – facebook.com/groups/231369768006318 – to see how to help and to follow the ongoing story of the masks, their makers and the distributions that are taking place. In a time of difficulty and sadness it’s a boost to the spirit and gives all Greenbelters the chance to participate.



# CAMP continued from page 1

started working to come up with new ways to keep campers virtually engaged.

Kinder Camp had three camp sessions, each two weeks long, each week having its own theme. To ensure that all campers had the materials needed for camp, the staff created take-home activity bags full of various arts and crafts materials and supplies. These themed activity bags were handed out to parents and then paired with instructional videos on Google Classroom. Trozzo filled that virtual, online classroom with numerous arts and crafts videos for the parents to be able to help their campers, while Constanza and Morton added plenty of fun exercise videos and science experiments.

Each week started with a Monday Morning Meet-Up through Zoom where staff explained to the campers and their parents what was in store for the upcoming week. This was the perfect opportunity for campers to

go through their activity bags and see what fun crafts and activities had been planned for them. Fast forward to Friday when everyone met again through Zoom for the Friday Show and Tell. This meeting definitely seemed to be everyone’s favorite since it allowed each of the campers to share their crafts and talk about their favorite activities from the week.

Though Kinder Camp Connect was something new, not only for the campers and their families but the staff as well, it was a big success. The parents’ willingness to take on more in their daily lives to help with this at-home summer camp definitely made all the difference. The hard-working, determined staff and the adaptable parents were able to pull off a fun, virtual summer camp for the kids. Though unconventional, this summer’s virtual Kinder Camp Connect program turned out to be a huge hit among both the campers and their parents.



PHOTO BY AMANDA LARSEN

Ole (5) makes a healthy snack in the shape of a tree using pretzel sticks and grapes for “Saving the Planet” week.



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Estate Sale GHI 2 Bedroom townhome with hardwood floors, opened kitchen & breakfast bar. Large fenced backyard opens onto protected woodlands.  
Brick Townhome with Addition Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.  
Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.  
Cape Cod SFH 3br 2 1/2ba home with rem. Kitchen, above-ground pool & wrap-around deck. Finished basement with family room and office space.  
Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced corner lot. Large fenced yard, addition to back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.  
4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.  
Townhome with addition 2 br townhome w front laundry/office addition. Opened kitchen w/passthru & pantry. Fenced backyard with large deck.  
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